

Minutes – August 27, 2015

Neighborhoods 2020 committee of the NCEC

Present: Jeff Strand, Michelle Chavez, Christina Kendrick, David Rubedor, Eric Gustafson, Antoine Martineau, Denis Houle

Eric Gustafson: Gave an intro

Rearranged the agenda by talking first about what we need to accomplish by Spring 2016 (Agenda point 3) because David Rubedor needs to leave early.

Referred to draft framework for committee's work. This is focused on one track of the committee's charge: for the rest of this year we've decided to focus on adjusting the CPP guidelines to in order to shift the direction of neighborhoods.

So far we've educated members on the history of NRP, what it accomplished, where the money went, etc.

Tonight we want to wrap up a conversation we've had for a few months about engaging three stakeholders: underrepresented communities; n'hood orgs as they stand; city council members. We want to finish our plan to do that tonight and negotiate what we can do and what the city can do to get the work done.

David Rubedor:

Can't stay whole meeting. Michelle and Tina are the staff people assigned to support the work of the committee. Tina works on access and outreach team (underrepresented groups). Michelle works directly with n'hoods--values n'hoods work and has a no-nonsense approach. They are here to support the work. Appreciate you coming together. I want you to take an honest look at how to enhance neighborhoods as we go forward. The department's role is to support you.

2017 guidelines coming up give you the opportunity to address current concerns about neighborhoods.

When I talk about the role of neighborhoods, I mean how does city incorporate n'hood work and n'hoods incorporate city work.

Our department will have a closer role with 2017 guidelines because we have to get the details in and roll it out. The other plan, because there is more time, will be more in your hands. If that sounds okay, that's how we approach supporting the work.

We have to tighten up the timeline. If we're going to change the guidelines, it is going to generate a lot of interest and it will take some cycles to work through it (with Council and NCR). They need to be ready to be proposed July of 2016. N'hoods need time to implement them. It depends on what the changes are. Backing up from there, council will need a few months to adopt it, so they need it by May, and NCR needs it by March. To give leeway, we need to take off a month, so that brings us to February. If we bring suggestions to the commission January/Feb/March and approve by April we can get this out by July.

I'd like to come to you with a number of ideas we have been thinking about, so you can think about them and kick them around. If we move recommendations to NCEC by January, we have more time.

Eric:

We may identify in the next six months things we would like to change, but if we hear from your staff it will cause problems, they may be things we scale back or wait to roll out. This may be a theme that plays out.

David:

You have to know where to include big changes. We need to dovetail the two efforts. Start with one and see what's possible. We have foreclosure in our funding allocation formula, and it's not really applicable anymore.

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We can also create a website for n'hoods 2020. (Tina is the contact person for that).

Denis:

I want to approach the work by asking for too much in the beginning and then have to scale back.

Jeff Strand:

We need to really hear community voices before we make major changes.

David: We developed CPP guidelines with NAs at their board meetings. At N'hoods 2020 vision, it could be a useful strategy. I would do that this time also with cultural organizations in order to understand barriers, opportunities, etc. We did it over 4 months last time but we could do it over a year this time. If we connect with more than NAs it will give a more robust idea of the opportunities.

Eric:

We also want to connect with people not on boards and not part of neighborhood organizations at all.

David:

We could help set up days of engagements with culturally based organizations around this issues.

Thank you for taking on the work.

Michelle:

There have been a lot of questions about what these things are. N'hoods 2020 is part of the Blueprint for Equity. This work (the committee is doing) will define the scope of service and deliverables.

David:

Blueprint is a strategic plan by the city to insure n'hoods and community orgs are equitably engaging community members. We put out initial draft. We got a lot of reactions. Some positive and some critical comments. We are going to rewrite the Blueprint, rescoping parts of it (too narrow in some places and not in other places). The language separated groups (n'hoods and cultural groups). We will redraft and send it out again. Staff is going to do some work next Monday.

Group discussion: Put all possibilities on the table--if we have same resources, what's possible. If we get more what can we do. Do we reduce base funding and put incentive grants on top of it?

If an org is only engaging one part of community, can they be funded as a n'hood? How do we get to the point where n'hoods are all inclusive? If it's not possible, how to we fill in the gap? Can we make our work in the latino community move into NAs? How do we get our engagement efforts to co-exist and work together?

Eric:

Our main task tonight is to wrap up engagement plan. Can we approve the agenda tonight? We have to leave building by six for a yoga class.

Jeff:

People want to attend meetings. The website is not up to date, so how do we make sure people come.

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Eric:

Agenda topic 4: backside of agenda and bluesheet. Review Draft Stakeholders questions and Minutes from May 28th.

Maybe we need an online form for n'hoods to fill out? We have a big picture sense about what we're trying to do, but we need more feedback to understand the problem we're trying to solve.

Cam Gordon wants to wait a few months in order to help facilitate interviews with council members.

Jeff:

Question missing for n'hood orgs. I'd like to add:

How would you like to see the process simplified to access your resources in order to get the work done?

Eric:

If we can get feedback from the three groups we'd like to see what the issues are—then, is there alignment between n'hoods, community members and council members?

Jeff:

Do we want to organize focus groups/face to face meetings in districts with NCEC commissioners? It could be a way to organize. Use a facilitation method for a facilitated, focussed conversation for actionable results.

Eric:

How do we set this up for a more ongoing conversation? Maybe we start with a survey and then do a forum later? City staff, what do you think?

Tina:

Additions to key stakeholders list. Each community needs different strategies to work with them. And elders vs young people is different. Face-to-face is powerful. Video is an amazing tool. I don't know what we can at NCR bring for resources to you all to reach the communities you need to.

We could host an engagement session with leaders from cultural groups. We could set it up from the city. For example, we're doing one of these sessions around housing. It could be a way for us to get a lot of information from a small group of people the community considers to be their leaders.

We could set up a full day--½ day with two communities and another ½ day with other two communities. Or full days.

I'll check in by next week about if/when we can do this. Get timing/logistics.

Eric:

How do we use moments of engagement to get people interested/invited into working with us.

Let's move forward with tours to get information back from underrepresented.

Let's make a short list of groups to engage: Southeast Asian soccer games, breakfast bites at NACDI, renters groups, etc